



# KYVL in Your Classroom

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Kentucky Middle School Association

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## KYVL Structure

**Our History:** The Kentucky Virtual Library (KYVL) is part of the Kentucky Virtual University (KYVU), a unit of the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE). The Kentucky Virtual University was created with the passage of the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997 (known as House Bill 1).

KYVL, launched in 1999, is the hub of a consortium of libraries throughout the state of Kentucky.

**Our Mission:** All Kentuckians will have equitable access to quality library and information resources and qualified, well-trained staff to support the Kentucky Virtual University as well as meet broader needs for learning, working and living.

By encouraging collaboration between libraries and partners in education and using current and emerging technology, KYVL aims to provide all Kentuckians access to a core collection of digital information resources.

**Our Ultimate Goal:** We support Vision 2020 and envision educated citizens who want advanced knowledge and skills and know how to acquire them; and who are good parents, good citizens, and economically self-sufficient workers.

**Our Staff:**

Enid Wohlstein, Director  
Vacant, Senior Reference Librarian  
Marcy Parker, Executive Secretary [shared]

**CPE President:** Thomas Layzell

**KYVU Interim CEO:** Norma Northern



## KYVL - What We Do

### We coordinate and/or fund:

- Access to a core set of over 40 electronic article and citation databases, including over 7,000+ full text journals, which are accessible to all registered students and public library patrons, as well as to the users of KYVL's various member communities *[see Database Descriptions handout]*
  - Database contracts are partially funded by our members
- Support and coordinate the Endeavor Consortium for Kentucky by funding and facilitating the multi-hub Endeavor Voyager library management system. Fourteen academic and special libraries currently participate.
- Ground courier delivery service to provide delivery of Interlibrary Loan requests between participating libraries within Kentucky to promote resource sharing and delivery of information resources.
  - A prescribed number of days are provided at no fee to the public libraries and state-assisted academic libraries as well as KCTCS
- Kentuckiana Digital Library, a project with the mission of creating a permanently available digital collection of Kentucky-oriented historic materials. *[See Kentuckiana handout]*
- Single search interface and access point to approximately 30 Kentucky library catalogs (academic, public, special)
- "How to Do Research" tutorials, in versions for both children and adults (information literacy)
- Access to a collection of current, authoritative web resources
- And much more... *[See KYVL Fact Sheet & About KYVL handouts]*



## About KYVL

Toll free 877.588.5288 or  
Email [kyvl@ky.gov](mailto:kyvl@ky.gov)

<http://www.kyvl.org>

The Kentucky Virtual Library (KYVL) is the hub of a consortium of libraries throughout the state of Kentucky. The KYVL is also a reference and research website providing equitable access to quality library and information resources. It was created with the passage of the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997 and went online in 1999. The Kentucky Virtual Library is part of the Kentucky Virtual University (KYVU), a unit of the Council on Postsecondary Education. By encouraging collaboration between libraries and partners in education and using current and emerging technology, KYVL aims to provide all Kentuckians access to a core collection of digital information resources.

One important component is to provide support to libraries serving distance learners via KYVL's offerings – to deliver information regardless of the student's location, supporting both KYVU and Kentucky's broader needs for learning, working and living.

Specific goals of KYVL are:

- To work collaboratively to effectively manage the programs and services of a Virtual Library.
- To enhance the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of resource sharing among Kentucky libraries by utilizing current and emerging technologies.
- To increase access to available electronic resources through cooperative statewide agreements.
- To provide a core collection of digital information resources at lower per unit cost to enhance teaching, learning, research and public services.
- To prepare students, faculty and staff of Kentucky's educational institutions and the citizens of the Commonwealth to be full participants in today's information-based global economy and in the life-long learning process by providing services to develop information literacy.

The Kentucky Virtual Library offers licensed electronic databases of citations, abstracts and full text journal articles. Since November of 1999, the KYVL has provided access to a core set of over 40 electronic article and citation databases, including over 7000 full text journals, to users of Kentucky libraries. The resources are accessible by any of Kentucky's approximately 4 million citizens through a variety of access points: public libraries, public and private postsecondary institutions, public K-12 schools and other member library locations.

In addition, the Kentucky Virtual Library, to further support resource sharing and delivery of information resources, the KYVL contracts for and coordinates a ground courier delivery service to provide delivery of Interlibrary Loan requests between participating libraries within Kentucky.

The KYVL also supports and coordinates the Endeavor Consortium for Kentucky by funding and facilitating the multi-hub Endeavor Voyager library management system. The fourteen participating academic and special libraries share Voyager, which is housed on two hub sites. Through the participation in the consortium, member libraries achieve the benefits of the best possible services at a lower cost than if implementing or maintaining a library management system independently.

KYVL also provides financial support for the Kentuckiana Digital Library, a project with the mission of creating a permanently available digital collection of Kentucky-oriented historic materials.

The Kentucky Virtual Library provides many free resources such as the “How to Do Research” tutorial for adults, the specially designed “KYVL for Kids” site (on which children can learn how to find and use information by following Spacedog), access to a number of Kentucky library catalogs, annotated subject-specific website lists, and many other tools.

The Kentucky Virtual Library serves diverse user communities of all ages. Our partners and members are the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, the Kentucky Department of Education (the K-12 public schools), the public and private academic institutions in Kentucky, the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Adult Education, Kentucky’s public libraries, and some non-public school systems.

KYVL members include 1,271 public K-12 schools, 118 public libraries, 8 state-assisted and 19 private academic and 11 special academic institution libraries, and more than 20 special and independent K-12 schools and libraries.

For more information, visit [www.kyvl.org](http://www.kyvl.org) or call toll-free at 1-877-588-5288.



## KYVL Partners and Stakeholders

- Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives
- Kentucky Department of Education (the K-12 public schools)
- Public Academic Institutions (Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Morehead State University, Murray State University, Northern Kentucky University, University of Kentucky with Lexington Community College, University of Louisville, and Western Kentucky University)
- Independent Academic Institutions (Alice Lloyd College, Asbury College, Bellarmine College, Berea College, Brescia University, Campbellsville University, Centre College, Cumberland College, Georgetown College, Kentucky Christian College, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Lindsey Wilson, Midway College, Pikeville College, Spalding University, St. Catharine College, Thomas More College, Transylvania University, and Union College)
- Kentucky Community and Technical College System
- Kentucky Adult Education
- Kentucky's Public Libraries
- Some special libraries, special academic institutions and independent schools/systems
- Kentucky citizens, residents, learners, educators – everyone in Kentucky!



## KYVL Logos and Images

<http://www.kyvl.org/html/about/imagelinks.shtml>

### How To Link To KYVL

In order for the KYVL project to continue to flourish, it is very important for Kentuckians to know that KYVL is available to them and that the databases they are using are a part of the KYVL project. We recommend that you provide a link to the KYVL from your main library page. If you are providing direct links from your library page into a specific database through the native interface, we ask that you put a KYVL logo next to that link.

To download the images below from a PC, put your cursor over the image, click the far right button on your mouse, click on "save image as..." and save it to your local directory. For most images we have created a white background image and a transparent image which is useful if you have pages with color backgrounds. Please call us if you have any problems or questions.



(White Background)



(Transparent)



(White Background)



(Transparent)

The small KYVL logo with the white background is the best choice for a desktop icon.



## Representing KYVL On Your Website

When you add a KYVL link to your library's website, we recommend the following:

- make the logo a hyperlink to the KYVL site
- include the URL (web address) for the KYVL site
- add a short paragraph to describe KYVL resources
- tell your patrons how to acquire a KYVL user id and password

For example:



<http://www.kyvl.org>

KYVL provides access to research and reference resources such as electronic article and citation databases, subject-specific annotated web links, Kentucky library catalogs, historical Kentucky materials, How to Do Research tutorials and much more.

Contact the Reference desk for your id and password to use KYVL at home.





## Other Ways to Describe KYVL on Your Website

- The Kentucky Virtual Library provides many free resources such as the “How to Do Research” tutorial for adults, the specially designed “KYVL for Kids” site, links to web-based statistical information about Kentucky from local, state, federal and non-governmental sources, Kentucky library catalogs and much more.
- KYVL provides access to over 40 article and citation databases containing over 7,000 full text journals, historic materials from Kentucky, library catalogs, and links to many subject-specific websites.
- KYVL is a research and reference website providing access to over 40 electronic article and citations databases containing over 7,000 full text journals, historical materials from many Kentucky libraries, and links to valuable web information resources.

Feel free to take portions of these descriptions and create your own or contact KYVL for suggestions. The important thing is to be accurate in your description.



## KYVL For K-12 Teachers & Library Media Specialists

Toll free 877.588.5288 or  
Email [kyvl@ky.gov](mailto:kyvl@ky.gov)

<http://www.kyvl.org>

### Learning Communities --

[Adult Education & Literacy](#)

[K12 Schools](#)

[Kids](#)

[KYVU Students](#)

[KYVU Faculty](#)

From the main KYVL page, select the [K12 Schools](#) link to reach the pages designed for K12 students and educators.



**Elementary  
School Students**

**Middle School  
Students**

**High School  
Students**

**Teachers**

Select the area you need...

In the Teachers area, the pages are designed to help Kentucky's K-12 educators locate and evaluate quality web information resources for use with students in the classroom and to help identify resources and opportunities for professional development.

Resources are organized based on the [7 core content subjects](#) as established by the Kentucky Department of Education plus sections for English as a Second Language, General/Reference and Professional Development resources.



**Databases:**

[EBSCO](#)  
[FirstSearch](#)  
[Novelist](#)  
[Wilson](#)  
[Grolier](#)  
[ProQuest](#)  
[Access from home](#)

**Websites:**

[Arts & Humanities](#)  
[Mathematics](#)  
[Practical Living/  
Vocational Studies](#)  
[Reading](#)  
[Science](#)  
[Social Studies](#)  
[Writing](#)  
[English as a Second  
Language](#)  
[General & Reference](#)  
[Professional  
Development](#)

[Return to Teachers'  
Main Page](#)

## Welcome to KYVL for Teachers

These pages are designed to help Kentucky's K-12 educators locate and evaluate quality web information resources for use with students in the classroom and to help identify resources and opportunities for professional development.

Resources are organized based on the [7 core content subjects](#) as established by the Kentucky Department of Education plus sections for English as a Second Language, General/Reference and Professional Development resources. Use the blue column on the left side of the web page to navigate.

For more information about this project read the [White Paper](#).

Check out the [KYVL for Kids](#) information literacy tutorial and portal to research databases. Built with 1st through 5th graders in mind, the KYVL for Kids portal to "All the Information in the Known Universe" includes a fun and exciting tutorial in which Space Dog helps kids become good researchers. The portal also includes links to databases of magazine articles and encyclopedias geared toward K-12 students.

A wealth of useful materials is also available to you through the [Grolier](#) databases. The Encyclopedia Americana contains a Teacher's Guide in Americana Journal that provides lesson plans based on worldwide current events. Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia's Brain Jam is a monthly magazine that will help teachers integrate the database into lesson plan preparation. Monthly features focus on timely subjects with articles in the encyclopedia as a starting point. Each feature has a multiple-choice quiz, a list of recommended Web links for further exploration of the subject, and a Teacher's Resources section. Brain Jam articles suggests discussion questions, essay topics, and activities designed to enliven study of the subject in question. The Teachers' Guide in New Book of Knowledge NBK News is your classroom resource for current events. Use the Teachers' Guide to learn how the site relates to the school curriculum and help students get the most from this site. The site includes reading comprehension based questions, discussion questions, and a quiz related to each NBK News article.

If you are a Kentucky educator and would like to participate in this project as a contributor, contact one of the people listed below for more information.

### Subject Contributors

- [Diane Culbertson](#), Danville Public Schools
- [Barby Hardy](#), Fayette County Public Schools
- [Jane Smith](#), Fayette County Public Schools
- [Cathy Watson-Pittman](#), Jefferson County Public Schools
- [Paula Whitmer](#), Fayette County Public Schools

[Suggest a Website!](#)

The [KYVL for Teachers](#) provides a collection of links to authoritative, reliable Web sites produced by educational institutions, non-profit agencies, commercial enterprises, and local, state, and federal government agencies. You can find appropriate Web sites for your research by using the blue bar on the left of the screen to navigate the included sites by subject.

Don't forget! These sites were suggested by K12 educators and evaluated by K12 educators.

**Databases:**[EBSCO](#)[FirstSearch](#)[Novelist](#)[Wilson](#)[Grolier](#)[ProQuest](#)[Access from home](#)**Websites:**[Arts & Humanities](#)[Mathematics](#)[Practical Living/  
Vocational Studies](#)[Reading](#)[Science](#)[Social Studies](#)[Writing](#)[English as a Second  
Language](#)[General & Reference](#)[Professional  
Development](#)[Return to Teachers'  
Main Page](#)

Use your mouse to navigate the selections available for the Teachers area.

First on the list are links to the KYVL databases, listed either by provider or database name.

Under Websites, clicking on a subheading takes you to a list of Web sites representing some of the best information available on the Web concerning this subject.

As you navigate the [KYVL for Teachers](#) area, this blue navigation menu will always appear and allow you to jump to a new subject or into a database.

Always the last item on the navigation bar, a link to return you to the main [KYVL for Teachers](#) page.

If you know of a site that you think should be included in the [KYVL for Teachers](#), you can suggest a website. Go the main [KYVL for Teachers](#) page and select [Suggest a Website](#) link at the bottom of the page. You can also contact the subject contributors directly.

TURN THE PAGE TO READ ABOUT KENTUCKY STATISTICAL  
RESOURCES ONLINE...

## KY Stats on KYVL

Don't forget the KY Stats area of KYVL...



## Kentucky Stats

Agriculture	
Arts & Humanities	
Business & Economy	
Education	<b>Education</b>
Environment	Contributor -- <a href="#">Barbara Whitener</a> , University of Louisville
General	
Health & Nutrition	<a href="#">Adjusted State and Local Education Expenditures per Individual 5 to 44 Years Old, 1999</a> This chart contains information about state and local education expenditures for individuals from ages 5 to 44.
Housing & Construction	<a href="#">Adult Education and Literacy in Kentucky</a> Published by the Legislative Research Commission, this report analyzes and gives statistics on education, literacy, teachers, and job training.
Justice	<a href="#">Adult Literacy in Kentucky</a> This site includes statistics on adult literacy in Kentucky by state, county, and income.
People	<a href="#">Annual Percentage of Kentucky School Students Who Drop Out</a> This graph shows dropout figures for Kentucky.
Sciences	<a href="#">Data About Kentucky Colleges and Universities</a> This site includes statistics on Kentucky higher education.
Social and Human Services	<a href="#">Education and the Common Good: Social Benefits of Higher Education in Kentucky</a> This is a cost-benefit analysis of some of the social benefits Kentucky realizes from an educated populace.
State & Local Government	<a href="#">Educational Attainment by Age and Sex</a> Educational attainment by age and sex. The figures are for High School Graduate or More and Bachelor's Degree or More. Information is from the Kentucky Deskbook of Economic Statistics.
Return to Kentucky Stats main page	<a href="#">Educational Attainment of Kentucky Counties</a> Educational attainment by county for 1990 and 2000. The figures are for High School Graduate or Higher and Bachelors Degree or Higher. Information is from the Kentucky Deskbook of Economic Statistics.

Choose [KY Stats](#) on the main KYVL page [www.kyvl.org].

These pages provide a collection of links to web-based sources of statistical information about Kentucky from local, state, federal and non-governmental sources.

Sources are organized under broad subject headings based on the chapter headings from the Statistical Abstract of the U.S.

The resources are contributed and/or evaluated by subject matter experts who are also Kentucky librarians. If your students need to research Kentucky Statistics, this should be one of the first places to look for data.

## How to Do Research

Learn the basics of finding and using information...

On the main KYVL page at <http://www.kyvl.org>, select the How to Do Research link.



## How to Do Research

Doing Research		Finding Articles		Evaluating Information	
	Finding Books		Searching the Web		Citing Sources
Site Map	Index	Search			Credits

To begin the tutorial, select the first block: Doing Research.

Each step of the tutorial can be navigated with front and back arrows at the bottom of the page.

### Sitemap

#### Doing RESEARCH

- [Information Sources](#)
- [Selecting the Best: don't settle for less!](#)
- [Developing a research strategy](#)
- [Subject and keyword searching](#)
- [Narrowing your search](#)
- [Expanding your search](#)
- [The whys & hows of search syntax](#)
- [Search syntax for life!](#)
- [Glossary](#)

#### Searching the WEB

- [Why the web?](#)
- [How to search the Web!](#)
- [Search TOOLS](#)
- [How to cite Web sources.](#)

#### Finding BOOKS

- [Why books](#)
- [How to find books!](#)
- [How to cite books.](#)

#### Evaluating INFORMATION

- [Why evaluate information sources?](#)
- [What are the criteria?](#)
  - [Authority](#)
  - [Objectivity](#)
  - [Reliability](#)
  - [Timeliness](#)
  - [Coverage](#)

#### Finding ARTICLES


- [Why articles?](#)
- [How to find articles!](#)
- [How to cite articles.](#)

#### Citing SOURCES

- [Why cite information sources?](#)
- [What needs to be cited?](#)
- [In-text citations](#)
- [How to cite](#)
- [Plagiarism: what is it?](#)
- [Style manuals](#)
- [Copyright & fair use](#)
- [Quick references](#)

To view the index of the tutorial, select Site Map.

Links go directly to a section to address a specific question, such as "How to cite Web sources."



## How to Do Research

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Doing  
**RESEARCH**

Finding  
**BOOKS**

Finding  
**ARTICLES**

Searching the  
**WEB**

Evaluating  
**INFORMATION**

Citing  
**SOURCES**

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Glossary

Site Map

Feedback?

**HOME**


### Information Sources

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When you need information, where do you go? Your choice of an information source will influence the kind of information you retrieve. **Consider the specific attributes of information sources before you make your choice!**

Information Source	Primary Attribute	Advantage	Disadvantage
<b>Book</b> <i>(non-fiction)</i>	<a href="#">Comprehensive</a>	<a href="#">Substantive</a>	Information may be out of date, depending on the date of the book's publication.
<b>Magazine</b>	<a href="#">Popular</a>	<a href="#">Focused</a>	Because of a limited amount of space, coverage is limited to only most current information.
<b>Journal</b>	<a href="#">Scholarly</a>	<a href="#">Authoritative</a>	Because of a limited amount of space, coverage is limited to only most current information.
<b>Newspaper</b>	<a href="#">Current</a>	<a href="#">Broad in scope</a>	<a href="#">Non-substantive</a>
<b>World Wide Web (Internet)</b>	<a href="#">Accessible</a>	<a href="#">Broad in scope</a>	<a href="#">Unreliable</a>

An excerpt from the tutorial - an introduction to information sources.



## How to Do Research

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Doing  
**RESEARCH**

Finding  
**BOOKS**

Finding  
**ARTICLES**

Searching the  
**WEB**

Evaluating  
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### Why Evaluate Information Sources?

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Not all "information" is [valid](#), [objective](#), [reliable](#), [timely](#) or [comprehensive](#). If any or all of these attributes are important to you, then you need to evaluate your information sources. Not all "information" is equal...

- What is the *purpose* and *context* of the information that you have found?
- Is the purpose to inform or to persuade?
- Is the information source reliable (e.g. a scholarly journal published by a university press) or an unidentified Web page?
- Can the author be identified?
- What is the author's expertise, credentials or institutional affiliation?
- Is the information source current or out-of-date for your information need?
- Is the information extensive or marginal?
- Is it supported by evidence?
- Can it be substantiated by other information sources

Be a critical consumer of the information you find! Just because it has been published in one format or another does not validate it. **Only you can assess its value!!**

Another excerpt from the tutorial prompting the learner to think critically about the validity and reliability of resources to be used in a project.

Learners can refer to this tutorial at any time during a research project. Consider integrating the tutorial into your class activities or syllabus as a ready-to-go module on information literacy.





## Virtual Reference Desk

Tollfree 877.588.5288 or  
Email [kyvl@ky.gov](mailto:kyvl@ky.gov)

<http://www.kyvl.org>

### Virtual Reference Desk

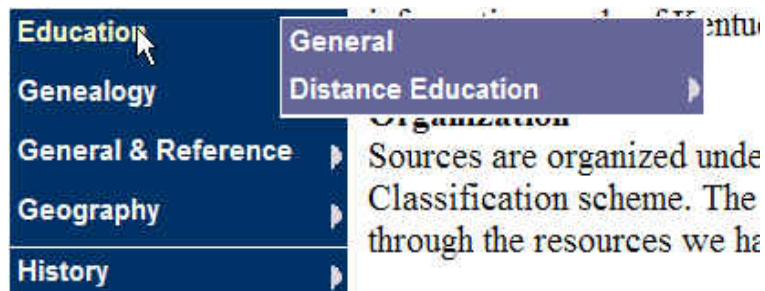
[Browse selected websites](#)

[Get help with your research](#)

Clicking on this link from the [KYVL](#) home page will take you to the [Virtual Reference Desk](#).



The [Virtual Reference Desk](#) provides a collection of links to authoritative, reliable Web sites produced by educational institutions, non-profit agencies, commercial enterprises, and local, state, and federal government agencies. You can find appropriate Web sites for your research by using the blue bar on the left of the screen to navigate the included sites by subject.



By using the mouse to place the arrow over a subject heading, a box listing subheadings will appear.

Clicking on a subheading takes you to a list of Web sites representing some of the best information available on the Web concerning this subheading:



Education	General	<a href="#">Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities</a>
Genealogy	Distance Education	Information about Kentucky's private and independent colleges and financial aid opportunities.
General & Reference	Almanac of the C	Library Science
Geography	You can see	Student Resources
History	Education statistics. The site contains such things as, SAT and ACT data, and information about financial aid, faculty salaries, revenues and gifts, trends in faculty employment, and more.	
Medicine	<a href="#">Appalachian Rural Education Network</a>	
Political Science & Law	The Appalachian Rural Education Network is composed of schools and regional professional partners in eastern Kentucky and southwest Virginia. It works to make schools relevant to their communities and to provide young people with a quality education that emphasizes place and community.	
Psychology	<a href="#">AskERIC Virtual Library</a>	
Religion & Philosophy	"The AskERIC Virtual Library contains selected educational resources, most of which are developed and/or maintained by AskERIC." This site is geared toward helping educators. Browse through the lesson plans or check out the special projects.	
Science	<a href="#">Awesome Library</a>	
Social Science	"Awesome Library organizes the Web with 14,000 carefully reviewed resources, including the top 5 percent in education." This site uses a common subject classification to collect websites geared toward different audiences. Be sure to choose your audience in the bar along the top of the page.	
Technology		
Kentucky Stats		
About the Virtual Reference Desk		

Clicking on a link from a list of Web sites takes you to a site outside of the [Kentucky Virtual Library](#).

The [Virtual Reference Desk](#) also provides links to other information and services. Among these are research assistance, writing help, career information, and information on copyright and intellectual property.

Virtual Reference Desk: How does the Kentucky Virtual Library choose the Web sites that are included in the Virtual Reference Desk?

[How we select an External Website](#)

The blue sidebar contains a link to information on how we select the Web sites included in the [Virtual Reference Desk](#).

A Web site will be added to the [Virtual Reference Desk](#) if:

It has been used to answer a question received at the [KYVL](#) help desk more than once

OR

It supports research on the Commonwealth of Kentucky

OR

It supports the information needs of the people of Kentucky

AND

It is evaluated as a quality Web site.

The Web sites that are included in the [Virtual Reference Desk](#) are evaluated by Kentucky librarians who volunteer to evaluate sites for a specific subject area. To see the list of volunteers, go to <http://www.kyvl.org/html/ref/refabout.shtml>.

[Recommend a Website](#)

If you know of a site that you think should be included in the [Virtual Reference Desk](#), you can use another link in the blue sidebar to access a form where you can submit the site for consideration. You can also contact the subject contributors directly.